

Mr. Richard Blumenthal  
Attorney General  
State of Connecticut  
55 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

May 19, 2009

Dear Mr. Attorney General,

Thank you for your letter dated April 8, 2009 in which you raise some concern about Tribune's recent announcement to locate the *Hartford Courant*, WTIC-TV and WTXX under one roof.

Tribune's decision to operate the *Hartford Courant* and its two television stations from one location in Hartford was designed to improve our ability to serve readers, viewers and advertisers and the communities in which they live and work. The move will enable WTIC and WTXX to draw on the rich newsgathering resources of the nation's oldest newspaper, and will create a better and more competitive news organization. More direct access to the video journalism of the television stations enables the *Courant* to be more relevant to its readers, and improves the 24/7 news coverage the newspaper offers on its website. The *Courant* and the stations will continue to decide independently what news to present and how to present it to their print, broadcast and internet audiences.

These three business units have taken advantage of one another's newsgathering resources for several years. This next physical step is in full compliance with the law, including the waivers granted by the FCC. We know our readers and viewers in Connecticut have many other choices to turn to for news, information and entertainment. In an economic environment where newspapers and broadcasters must innovate and become more efficient to survive, measures such as this are essential to preserve the quality journalism offered by the *Courant* and our television stations.

I understand you had a productive meeting with Rich Graziano, and can assure you that Rich and the management team of our Hartford media businesses will be respectful stewards of these local franchises.

We are well aware, as we know you are, of the important role our media properties play in the lives of our readers, viewers and advertisers in the greater Hartford area. The *Courant* reaches more than 800,000 consumers in print and online each week, and it is the oldest continuously published newspaper in the country. WTIC-TV and WTXX-TV are the only television stations remaining in Hartford that originate local news from the city. The moves we are making now and in the future will ensure that these properties remain vibrant and important contributors to the local community for years to come.

Best regards,

  
Sam Zell  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer